

Minutes



To: All Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Chief Executive, Chief Officers, All officers named for 'actions'

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services
Ask for: Michelle Diprose
Ext: 25566

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE THURSDAY, 19 APRIL 2018

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

D Andrews (Chairman), J Bennett-Lovell (Vice-Chairman), F Button, R C Deering, K M Hastrick (Vice-Chairman), T Howard, J S Kaye, N A Quinton, M D M Muir (substitute for H K Crofton), I M Reay

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

PARENT GOVERNOR / CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES (VOTING)

*A Charlwood

**denotes members appointed for education scrutiny matters only.*

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on Thursday, 19 April 2018 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below.

Note: No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the Committee in relation to the matters on which conclusions were reached at this meeting.

PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 24 January and 1 February 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 INTEGRATED PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WORK PROGRAMME

[Officer contact: Natalie Rotherham, Head of Scrutiny Tel: 01992 558485]

- 2.1 The Committee received a report providing a number of proposed scrutiny activities identified by the Scrutiny of the Integrated Plan 2017/18 – 2021/22 groups.
- 2.2 The Committee agreed to the proposed scrutiny activities and requested these be added to the work programme as detailed below:

Scrutinies:

1. Review care staffing levels at one and two year intervals to ensure improvement targets are met
2. Review the savings made as a result of the Investment to Transform bid to ensure Adult care Services targets are met – to be carried out late Autumn
3. The County Council's confidence in partners 'financial stability and ability to deliver services following the collapse of Carillion. The quality of current partners presents a risk if the County Council does not maintain vigilance in their performance and overall health of the company. To include sub-contractors and risk of loss to workforce.

Seminars

1. Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - Autumn
2. Workforce Strategy
3. Digital Strategy - Summer
4. Infrastructure preparedness with regards to supporting future technological developments e.g. self-driving cars – scheduled 8 November 2018

Bulletins

1. The continued ability of the voluntary sector to provide services equitably across Hertfordshire
2. To cover the '25 by 20' initiative and the related property strategy, or report for all County Councillors

2.3 The Committee agreed not to take forward:

1. to review the Herts Waste Partnership
2. to investigate how more cost effective alternatives to the current transportation model for children around the County could be provided
3. Highways performance management initiative, seeking evidence that Highways was proactively managing its contracts and preparing for potential future pressures. (Performance was reported quarterly to Cabinet Panel meetings)
4. to complete an update / review on the skills and funding needed for the new Growth and Infrastructure Team alongside its priorities. Noted this would form part of the HIPP and CIL scrutiny in July 2018

2.4 The Committee agreed the proposed scrutiny request for 'Scrutiny of the working relations between Public Health and the NHS' be referred to the Health Scrutiny Committee

Conclusions

2.5 That the Committee agreed:

1. a balanced future work programme
2. that the scrutines; lunchtime seminars and bulletins as detailed in 2.2 above be added to the work programme
3. not to take forward the scrutinies as detailed in 2.3 above
4. the request for "Scrutiny of the working relations between Public Health and the NHS' be referred to the Health Scrutiny Committee

3. SCRUTINY OF THE INTEGRATED PLAN 2018/19 – 2021/22: FEEDBACK

[Officer contact: Natalie Rotherham, Head of Scrutiny Tel: 01992 558485]

3.1 The Committee received a summary of the feedback on its scrutiny of the Integrated Plan 2018/19 – 2021/22.

3.2 The Committee noted the positive feedback summarised in the report particularly:

*Natalie
Rotherham /
Charles Lambert
/ Michelle
Diprose to
action all*

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- the strong member interest and engagement
- the Director of Resources scene setting at the December OSC and the update on day one of the IP scrutiny.

3.3 Members supported the suggestions to address the negative comments in relation to the IP Scrutiny as detailed in 2.3 of the report. These are detailed below:

- A template statement for IP Chairman to open the evidence gathering session
- IP Chairman and Graduate Management Trainees to attend OSC Chairman’s briefing prior to day 2 to discuss the draft report
- Ensuring the constituent elements of the IP process are understood i.e. purpose of discussion of the IP at panels and IP scrutiny. This to include a note and timeline for officers clarifying what happens when
- Add data interrogation to finance seminar
- Chairman’s training early 2019

3.4 Members of the Committee stated they were impressed with the way the IP process had been handled. The Chairman praised officers on the organisation of the IP Scrutiny in the minutest of detail. He also applauded the communication with Members which he thought was exceptional. Members also agreed the Graduate Trainees input was excellent.

Conclusions

3.5 That the Committee identified the following points as detailed in point 3.3 above to take forward for the Scrutiny of the IP in 2019/20.

4. THE RISK MANAGER RESPONSE TO THE IDENTIFIED RISKS FROM THE INTEGRATED PLAN (IP) PROCESS

[Officer contact: Natalie Rotherham, Head of Scrutiny Tel: 01992 558485]

4.1 The Committee received a report in relation to the risks identified from the scrutiny of the Integrated Plan 2018/19 - 2021/22 and the responses from the Risk Manager.

4.2 The Risk Manager had considered each risk identified by Members and provided a response to each entry.

4.3 Some concern was raised that some of the risks would not be placed

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on the risk register and Members that raised concern agreed to contact the Risk Manager directly for more information. Another concern was that the Audit Committee received a regular update of the risk register and a Member thought certain items that the IP identified were already on the risk register and on the Risk Managers response it was stated that it would not be put on the register. The Scrutiny Officer agreed to seek clarification and report back.

*Charles Lambert
to action*

Conclusions

The Committee noted the Risk Managers response attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

5. ADULT CARE SERVICES – 15 YEAR PLAN – CHIEF OFFICER UPDATE

[Officer contact: Iain McBeath, Director of Adult Care Services Tel: 01992 556363]

- 5.1 The Committee received an update from the Director of Adult Care Services (ACS) on the services 15 year plan. The 15 year direction document set out the strategic ambition for adult social care in Hertfordshire. The presentation covered:
- an overview of the 15 year Adult Care Service Plan
 - how it would inform service provision and development
 - how it would fit in with the Integrated Plan programme
 - how partners and other key stakeholders would be involved
- 5.2 It was noted that Adult Social Care put forward savings of £41m over the next 4 year period and had also requested £4.7 from Invest to Transform in order to help achieve the 15 year plan.
- 5.3 Members raised concern over the low wages of carers and that they are not reimbursed for the journey costs and time to the following call. The Director of ACS advised there had recently been 2 new contracts, one east rural and one west rural so that carers were paid more for travel times. It was noted the contracts were to full capacity and the contract seemed to be working well.
- 5.4 Members were informed that suitable housing was in short supply and ACS were carrying out work with all the district and borough councils of Hertfordshire to get housing fit for purpose.
- 5.5 The Chairman thanked the Director of ACS for his update on the Adult Care Services 15 year Plan.

Conclusions

5.6 The Committee noted the Adult Care Services 15 Year Plan.

6. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS: UPDATE

[Officer contact: Natalie Rotherham, Head of Scrutiny (01992 588485)]

6.1 The Committee received a report providing the recommendations from the Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Transformation Plan Topic Group and Resilience: Hertfordshire County Council's Business Continuity Plan Topic Group

6.2 Members noted that the Executive Member response to the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adult Health Board Topic Group, Community Protection Safe & Well Topic Group and Resilience: Hertfordshire County Council's Business Continuity Topic Group had been received.

6.3 Members noted that the Impact of Scrutiny (OSC) Sub-Committee (ISSC) had not met since 28 November 2017.

Conclusion

- 6.4
 - 1. The Committee noted the recommendations set out in Appendices 1(a) and 1 (b), to the report.
 - 2. The Committee noted the Executive Member responses to scrutiny recommendations set out in Appendix 2(a), 2(b) and 2(c) to the report, and agreed that the ISSC (OSC) be requested to consider action taken on these in due course.

*Natalie
Rotherham
/ Michelle
Diprose /
Elaine
Manzi to
action*

7. SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

[Officer contact: Natalie Rotherham, Head of Scrutiny (01992 588485)]

7.1 The Committee considered its work programme 2018 – 2019, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, and those scrutinies scheduled for the forthcoming period.

7.2 The draft scoping documents for the Local Enterprise Partnership Topic Group and Free School Meals Topic Group attached as Appendix 2(a) and 2(b) to the report were also received and no further amendments were made by members.

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7.3 The Committee received a scrutiny request in relation to Free School Meals for inclusion on the work programme. The Committee agreed that this request would be added to the work programme.

7.4 The Committee noted and agreed the following amendment to the work programme;

Conclusion

- 7.5
1. The work programme considered at this meeting reflected the decisions made by the Committee at its last meeting.
 2. The Committee agreed its work programme, amended as follows:-
 3. Free School Meals to be added to the work programme
 4. No scrutinies were deleted from the work programme:
 5. The Committee noted the draft scoping documents for the Local Enterprise Partnership Topic Group and the Free School Meals Topic Group attached as Appendix 2(a) and 2(b) to the report.

*Natalie
Rotherham
/ Michelle
Diprose to
action all*

8. OTHER PART I BUSINESS

8.1 There was no other business.

9 REPORT TO COUNTY COUNCIL

A summary of all items will be reported to the County Council at its meeting on 17 July 2018.

*Michelle
Diprose/
To action*

**KATHRYN PETTITT,
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN _____

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